accompanying spouses and dependent children.

(b) Members of National Parliaments and their accompanying spouses and dependent children.

(c) Heads of National Academic Institutions and their accompanying spouses and dependent children.

Inclusion of other categories in the Schemes would be considered by the Council of Ministers at an appropriate time in light of the operation of the Scheme.

Amount spent on Advertisement

3858. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the total amount spent by the Ministry of External Affairs on advertisement given to the newspapers direct or through DAVP etc. during the period 1992-93 and 1993-94, language wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): The information is beign collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Meeting at Colombo under the Aegis of UN Advisory Programme for Human Rights

3859. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether at four day meet ending Saturday 9th July, 1994 was held at Colombo under the aegis of the UN Advisory Programme for Human Rights, forceful pleas were made to curb population and to that end, amongst other measures to raise the marriage age of girls in Sourth Affrica;

(b) if so, what precise observations and suggestions were made thereon; and

(c) what decisions, if any, have been taken in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURISHEED): (a) to (c) The Second United Nations Seminar on Traditional Practices affecting the Health of Women and Children was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 4-8 July, 1994. The Seminar focused on health problems of women and Children in Asia. At the Seminar, forceful appeals were made to curb population and to that end, amongst other measures to raise the marriage age of girls, the draft Action Plan recommended that Governments adopt legislative measures fixing a minimum age for marriage of girls as 18 years. In India, the Child Marriage Restraint Act already provides the minimum age of marriage for females to be 18 years.

The Countries Facing Population Problem

3860. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the G7 at its recent annual summit reviewed the outcome of the recent Cairo Population Conference and decided to grant more generous debt relief to the countries facing special difficulties on account of population growth; and

(b) if so, what amount of debt relief is expected by Government of India as one of the most populated countries with a high growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) No Sir. The Cairo Conference on Population and Development is to take place only in September 1994 whereas the G7 Summit took place in Jully 1994. The G7, did not therefore comment on the outcome of the Cairo conference. The communique issued at the G7 Summit only stessed the importance of positive outcome of the Cairo Conference on Population and development.

In regard to debt relief, the Summit Communique stated: We encourage the Paris Club to pursue its efforts to improve the debt treatment of the poorest and most indebted countries. Where appropriate we favour a reduction in the stock of debt and an increase in concessionality for those countries facing special difficulties.

Indian does not come under the category of the poorest and most indebted countries.

Missing of Passports sent through Post

3861. SHRI RAM GOPAL VADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the missing of passports sent through post;

(b) if so, the details thereof, detected during the last two years and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether Government have detected any cases of obtaining passports by applicants on bogus addresses during the last two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government's attention has been drawn to missing passports sent through post. The problem has been brought to the notice of the postal authorities who have been requested to investigate such cases.

(c) and (d) Government is aware of cases where passports have been obtained by giving bogus address. As soon as such cases come to notice of the Passport Office the passports are impounded. A record of impounding passports is 'maintained by the respective Passport Offices.

Proof of Pak Hand in Bombay Blast

3862. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHATA:
SHRI SARDA MOHANTY:
SHRI G.G. SWELL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn the attention of Islamic countries with regard to ISI activities and indisputable proof of ISI's hand on Bombay blast; and

(b) if so, whether Government would take some steps to see that Ayub Memon's family in Karachi does not get liquidated due to Ayub's disclosures regarding ISI activities in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government have supplied to Pakistan detailed information about the presence of members of the Memon family in Pakistan. Government have repeatedly and at various levels urged Pakistan to locate, apprehend and return to India the members of the Memon family. It is regrettable that so far no positive response has been received from Pakistan.

Government's stand on Pakistan's proposal on Nucear Weapons

3863. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether government's attention has been drawn to a press newsitem captioned Pak spurns no first attach proposal as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 4.7.1994;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan has turned down the proposal to sign an agreement to use nuclear weapons;

(c) if so, whether the plans of Pakistan appears to be mischievous; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Government proposed to Government of Pakistan, one in of the six Nonpapers forwarded to Pakistan on January 24, 1994, that as further demonstration of its commitment for reducing mistrust and enhancing confidence between the two countries, India would be willing to enter into an agreement according to which both countries shall undertake not to be the first to use or threaten to use its nuclear capability against each other.

Pakistan's response conveyed on 19th February, 1994 in the form of comments and counter proposals was, regrettably, dismissive. On March 21, 1994, Government once again urged Pakistan to consider the Indian proposals